

TEST CODE 6 2 0 3 0 4

FIAS - MGP 2023 - Essay Test (FLT) #4

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटे**ForumIAS**Maximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250**ESSAY / निबंध**

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	PRERNA SINGH		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910098184	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	23-08-23

\*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
Q.1			2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English/Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part. प्रश्न पत्र में दो खंड हैं। प्रत्येक खंड में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बहु-विषय मुद्रित हैं। आपको प्रत्येक भाग में से किसी एक विषय का लेखन करना है।	
Q.2			3. One question in each part is compulsory. प्रत्येक भाग में से एक प्रश्न करना अनिवार्य है।	
Total Marks/कुल अंक			4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. एक प्रश्न/भाग द्वारा किए गए अंकों की संख्या इसके सामने इंगित की गई है।	
Remarks/टिप्पणी :			5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
			6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।	
			7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।	
<b>For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु</b>				
Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :			End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :	
Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :			Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु</b>				
ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :		EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤		Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :



### SECTION - A

1. Before the borders are broken the minds are invaded.  
सीमाओं को तोड़ने से पहले दिमाग/ सोच पर आक्रमण किया जाता है।
2. Talent and passion are only useful tools if one has the work ethic to back them up.  
प्रतिभा और जुनून तभी उपयोगी उपकरण हैं यदि किसी के पास उन्हें सहारा देने के लिए कार्य नैतिकता है।
3. The opportunity of interfaith dialogue: modern solution for globalised world.  
अंतरधार्मिक संवाद का अवसर : वैश्वीकृत दुनिया के लिए आधुनिक समाधान।
4. The only impossible journey is the one you never begin.  
एकमात्र असंभव यात्रा वह है जिसे आप कभी शुरू नहीं करते हैं।

4. The only impossible journey is the one you never begin

You can't sit here. Why?  
asked the man. This coach isn't  
for you. Go to the back of the train.  
But, I have a ticket, I have already  
paid for it. Doesn't matter, he was  
told. The man persisted, I will not  
go, this isn't fair. The train  
stopped. Two people in police uniform  
entered the coach, threw the man  
and his luggage outside the train.

The man was none other than Grandhi and it was his first encounter to the prevalence of racism in South Africa. At that point, if anyone would have told him, one day he will become an inspiration to stop the practice of racism worldwide he wouldn't have believed.

After the incidence, Gandhi took his first step to become a voice against prevalent inequality. He established native Indian Congress, protested against cancellation of marriage licence by the white government and ultimately brought them on negotiation table. Thus began his journey from being a lawyer to 'Mahatma', from Mohandas to our beloved 'Bapu'. His journey brought him back to India, to lead the Indian freedom struggle. The empire where the sun never sets was shown a way out.

Everything appears Impossible at first, but the more closely we examine it, more we practice it, more we become familiar, simpler it appears.

This essay will try to begin by looking at what it means to be impossible to begin a journey, why some things appear impossible, How one can move from impossible to possible journey, what qualities are needed to begin this impossible journey and to sustain it?

Why does something appears as impossible? Maybe because it's unfamiliar or maybe it brings with itself a fear, a fear of failing to reach the destination, a fear of reaching someplace else. Impossibility is like

a veil which keeps us under fear, under ignorance. one can continue to live under the veil or remove the veil and take the first step. Take the example of India!

When India gained Independence what did it face? A population with 80% illiteracy, 75% dependency on agriculture, 50% of population living under poverty. The journey to reach self-sufficiency in food production seemed impossible, inclusive development was a distant destination. But we did take the first step in the form of trickle down approach, green revolution,

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opening IITs and IIMs. This first step put us on the path to progress, a journey to remember. Today we have around 84% literate population, export of food grains, Indian engineers dominating the world market. What seemed impossible, is now a model of development.

The first step is the most important and most difficult one. When man first discovered fire, they had no idea of what it was. The journey started with fear of fire, to understanding its mechanism, to using it in our day to day life. When things become familiar, journey becomes easier.

However its not only the unfamiliarity which makes the journey difficult. Sometimes in our ignorance, we fail to <sup>make</sup> take the efforts. The ignorance could stem from any reason, maybe a lack of awareness, lack of interest or the circumstances we are presently in.

Take the example of Middle-east. A region blessed with oil reserves, countries with which mostly follow similar religious beliefs and yet journey to peace in this conflict ridden place seems impossible. There are too many interests, too many narrow minded approaches, a blame or circumstance all preventing the region from taking the path of peace.

Then what will happen if we never take our first step? Regret of not doing something but also we will miss onto the opportunities which the journey would have offered us. A chance to develop, to evolve would be missed.

Look at Raja Rammohan Roy or Savitri Bai Phule if they would have not taken the first step towards the journey of a better and equitable world, we would have been still living under the evils of sati or female feticide. That's why first steps are so important, for individuals, for community, for society. It leads to progress or evolution as we like to call it.



To go on any journey, we need to do some preparations, similar is the case with this journey of life. We need few qualities to begin the journey, few qualities to sustain the journey and keep us safe in this voyage.

One of the most important thing is courage. Courage to start, courage to continue, courage to learn. When India started its journey to space exploration, we didn't had much budget, the manpower was young with very less experience but we had courage. Vikram Sarabhai and his team showed courage, from a failed first launch to launching 1st satellite, sending first space mission to prepairing

for human flight. The journey  
has been up and onwards.

The journey also demands  
perseverance and consistency to  
reach your destination. Thomas  
Edison failed 999 times before he  
reached his destination. But he  
was consistent with his determination  
and his quest for discovery.

Dasrath Manjhi undertook the  
journey to make way in between  
the mountains. The journey must  
have been more difficult than  
it sounds. But it was his sheer  
courage, determination and  
perseverance which he continued  
for eleven long years that he  
was finally able to reach his  
destination.

Although not all journeys will take us to the destination we desire and that's the beauty of journey. Christopher Columbus began his journey to reach India but as it turns out he ended up discovering America. The trick is to keep moving, we may find what they are looking for or something even better. The more we enjoy the journey, the better it becomes.

But not many are able to enjoy the journey. We want to reach the destination in haste and forget to look at journey and appreciate it, for this journey is the biggest teacher. When Michael Jordan was asked his reason for success, he replied — "I failed to take 9000 shots in my life, 25 times I was

trusted with winning shot but  
I failed and that's why I succeed.

Many individuals drop the  
journey after the first setback.  
"We die of thirst, just when the  
palm trees arise at the horizon!"  
Human kind's journey to climate  
protection is an illustration of this.

We have embarked upon this  
journey to reduce global warming,  
greenhouse gas emission but  
with one wrong decision, we take  
a step back. Climate change is  
a lie! claimed USA president as he  
withdrew USA from the pact.

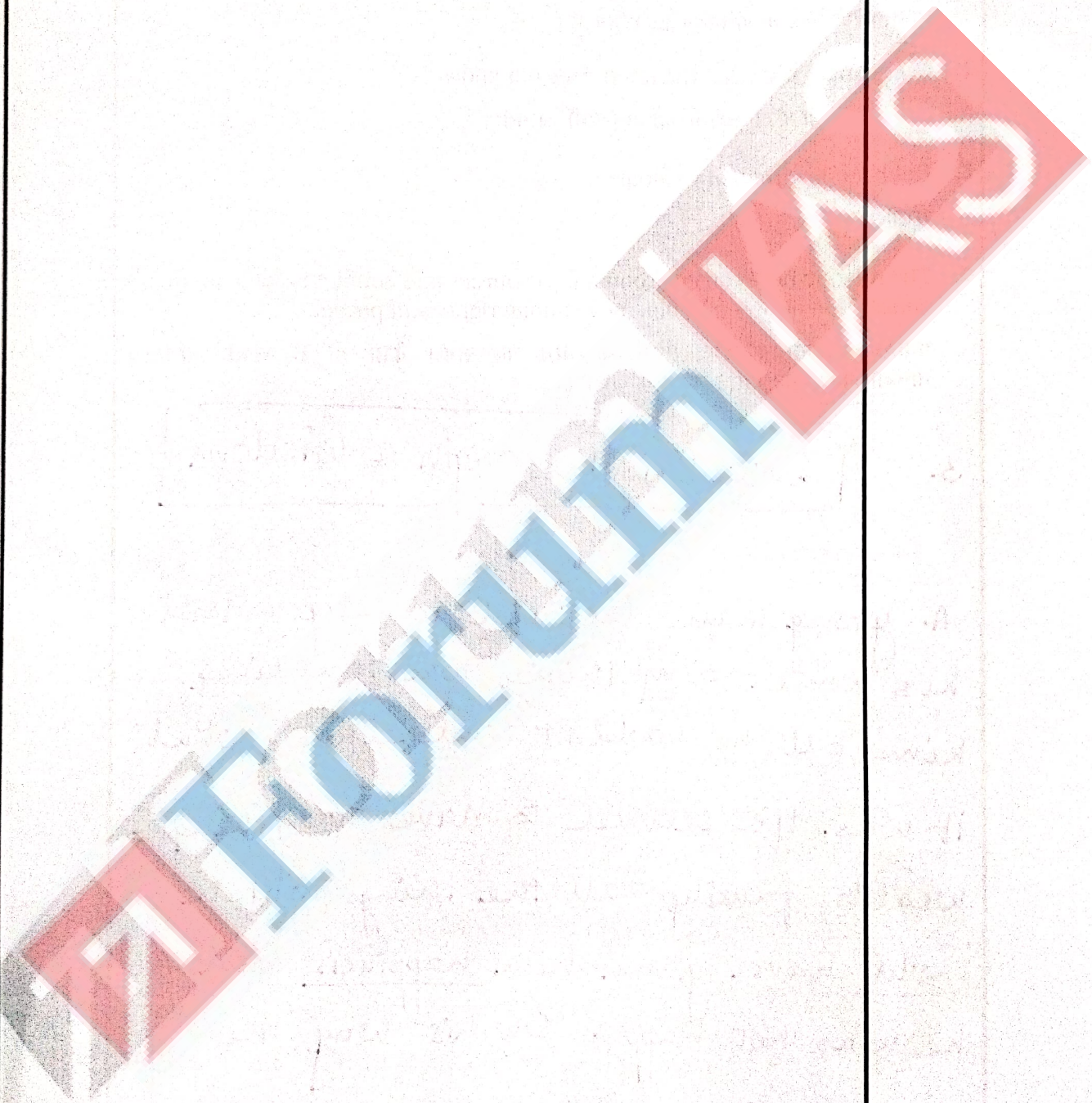
Instead of looking at the  
journey as means to reach a  
destination, the journey itself has  
to be seen as an end. Imagine  
if Gandhi ji would have dropped

the freedom struggle after Chauhan  
Chauhan incident? or after failure  
of round table conference? The  
Independence would still be a  
far fetched dream, the sun of  
British empire would still be  
shinning.

So, the most important thing  
is to be on the path of journey,  
the pace doesn't matter.

"If you can't run, walk  
If you can't walk, crawl  
By all means, keep moving"

**FEEDBACK**





### SECTION - B

1. Science applied is the engine of humanity.  
व्यावहारिक विज्ञान मानवता का इंजन है।
2. Eyes cannot see what the mind does not know.  
आंखें वह नहीं देख सकती जो मन नहीं जानता।
3. Doubt is the origin of wisdom.  
संदेह ज्ञान का मूल है।
4. The relation between environment, resources and conflict is same as the connection between Democracy, human rights and peace.  
पर्यावरण, संसाधन और संघर्ष के बीच का संबंध वैसा ही है जैसा लोकतंत्र, मानवाधिकार और शांति के बीच का है।

3. Doubt is the origin of wisdom

A young man decided to step outside his home. Something was troubling him, but he couldn't understand what it was. He seemed to have everything - wealth, family, all the things which could have given him happiness and yet he was not happy. On his way, he encountered an old man, a sick man and a dead man. His mind started searching for answers. If death is

inevitable, how can one be happy? He thought to himself. Eventually he met a sadhu, who appeared to be at peace, a sense of calmness was reflected from his face. The man had an eureka moment, he understood what he had to do to find the true meaning of life.

The man was none other than Siddhanta Gautama. The doubt his mind generated ultimately helped him to become 'Buddha' or the enlightened one. He gave to the world, the idea of 'Astang marg' and how to live life to achieve Nirvana.

Like Buddha, many individuals and societies together reached the goal of wisdom through the path of doubt. This essay will begin with describing what one means when they talk about doubt and wisdom.



The essay will move ahead by looking at how doubt leads to wisdom? what will happen when we one doesn't doubt? how to inculcate the habit of doubt? The Essay will then focus on instances when doubt will not lead to wisdom and towards the end how wisdom and doubt re-enforces each other.

To begin with, wisdom appears to be an utopian dream. To have an all encompassing understanding about something, to be enlightened. Wisdom is a continuous process and is ever evolving. The wisdom of today can be the doubt of tomorrow. Take the example of the idea that earth is flat. In ancient times this was the wisdom but towards the end of medieval time there was a doubt on this wisdom and finally a new wisdom was attained that earth is round.

That's the role of doubt. It questions the prevailing notions. It doesn't accept the things at face value and goes for deeper understanding. It leads to the development of critical thinking. Doubt is like a seed which leads to the growth of plant of wisdom.

Doubts are the guiding light

Doubts bring us a step closer to the wisdom. When we doubt, question our horizon of thinking expands. We start looking at the alternative perspectives, ~~our~~ mistakes are made visible to us. Human kind's evolution is nothing but an apt example of this. It was a prevalent notion that

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God created us. Adam and Eve were the first man and woman on earth, the bible preached. But Darwin was not convinced by this explanation. He questioned it, did his ~~research~~ research and gifted the humankind, the theory of evolution.

The same holds true for our way of looking at environment. It was thought that resources are unlimited at the disposal of humans. But many critically questioned it. In 1984, Brundtland report was published and it changed the prevailing notion about environment. From coal is the way forward to phase-out coal use, the journey started with a doubt — what if the resources are not unlimited? Thus we arrived at the concept of circular economy.

The same doubt helped Raja Ram Mohan Roy to question the practice of sati and bring a ban on its practice. It helped Babasaheb Ambedkar to not accept his low caste position as was the wisdom of his time. He critiqued it, questioned it and ultimately abolished it.

Doubt can also be a source of strength to stand up for oneself, to ~~not~~ not accept discrimination. When Taliban told Malala Yousufzai that she can't study further, because she's girl. Malala didn't accept it, she doubted the logic, fought the idea and today is an inspiration for women all around the globe.

Absence of doubt - a tragedy

If doubt is so important, what will happen if one doesn't inculcate this habit? Doubts bring with itself change. Without it, status quo will remain the same. Imagine if Sushma

Murthy had not doubted the discriminatory recruitment policy of Tatas. She would not have written a letter to Ratan Tata, neither she would have got the job as first female engineer in the company. The status quo changed, she paved the way for generations of women.

Without doubt, one would continue to live in their veil of ignorance. In many cases the present exploitation would have continued. India's freedom struggle illustrates this. For years Indians were told they are white man's burden, that British was helping to reform. Until one day when Dadabhai Naoroji doubted this, critically analyzed British rule in India and came up with his economic drain theory.

That's why sewing the seeds of doubt are important. But the question is how to promote this rational, critical thinking? Is it something natural

or can be inculcated by an individual? From Socratic method to value based education, there are many ways to promote the idea of critical thinking. Our ancient texts have always promoted its importance. Be it Nachiketa questioning Yamraj about death or Gargi questioning Yajnavalkya about his prejudices. These texts are a great source of promoting the habit of rationality.

Our constitution talks about how developing a scientific and rational outlook as a fundamental duty. The socialization a family and school gives can promote this critical temperament.

However our ability to question and doubt also depends upon the freedom available in the society.

if the society we live in is intolerant, many individuals will meet the same fate as that of Socrates.

But ultimately, the habit of doubting, self-reflection depends upon the individual. ~~we~~ take the example of Ashoka, only when he himself realized the devastation caused by war, he shifted his policy from Ahimsa to Dhammagosha.

Moving ahead, if we look for a deeper understanding, will doubt always lead to wisdom or are some cases where doubt can have some harmful impact.

Doubt — a double edge sword

While in general doubt acts as a guiding light but something doubting at the insignificant things, we create a new problem. China's handling of

foodcrisis in early 1960s is a reflection of the same. When there was a food shortage, the leaders of the country doubted sparrows as the reason. They believed sparrows eat the grains and cause shortage. Thus began a movement against these little creatures. People were encouraged to kill sparrows, competitions were organized and eventually sparrows disappeared from the country. But it gave rise to a new problem — increase in number of rats became sparrows acted as natural predators to them. As a result China eventually had to import sparrows from Russia!

So doubt also needs wisdom as much as wisdom needs doubt. What to doubt and what not to also requires a certain level of understanding without which doubt can lead to chaos, instability and new set of challenges.



That is where a balance is needed. Understanding to know what is to be doubted and what not. Understanding like some wisdoms are timeless and they shouldn't be doubted. The wisdom of love, compassion are time tested and universal. While there are other wisdoms which we accept today that will become the doubt of tomorrow. Our inner light will help us to guide towards rationality and find the Buddha within us!